



commuter services guide

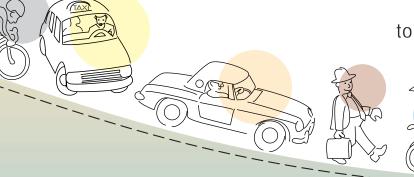


Beat the traffic. Save time, money, and stress. Protect the environment.

Commuter Services can show you Better Ways To Work...

# Better Ways to Work!

Montgomery County Commuter Services helps businesses, nonprofits, and other organizations implement transportation benefits programs. These programs reward both the employer and employee for not driving to work alone. Commuting solutions reduce gridlock, clean the air, boost our economy, and contribute to a livable community.







**Montgomery County Division of Transit Services** 

## Finding Better Ways to Work...

# A Guide to Commuter Services: What Commuter Services can do for you.

#### **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

Let us plan your trip to work. Getting there is easy on Ride On, Metro, MARC, and Express Buses. We can also provide information on fares, transit subsidies, and fare media sales locations, such as our Commuter Express Store, 8401 Colesville Road, adjacent to the Silver Spring Metro.

#### CARPOOLS/VANPOOLS

No matter where you live, receive FREE assistance in forming or joining a carpool/vanpool convenient to your home and office.



#### FREE/DISCOUNT PARKING

Take advantage of the discount parking rates in many lots and garages for carpools and vanpools. Also, free park-and-ride lots make it easy for you to meet your carpool

or vanpool, or leave your car and take public transportation. Ask for the guide, "Park & Ride Commuter Lots."



# **BIKING**

Get in shape! Ride your bike to work! All Ride On buses and Metrobuses have bike racks, so you can bike just part of the way. There are rental lockers and parking racks at many Metro stations. Bike route maps are

available. Some employers provide showers, racks, and lockers. We can help you find a mentor to help with your first few trips!

We're working to improve sidewalks and street crossings to encourage pedestrian safety and enjoyment. Some employers give free walking shoes to encourage this activity. Walking stimulates the body and the brain and is a great way to build exercise into your week.



Want to reduce commuting time? Commuter Services can tell you about programs, such as "Live Near Your Work," in which up to \$3,000 funding may be available toward a downpayment for your home in Silver Spring or Wheaton. Special mortgages may also be available in many areas if you use transit to commute.

### **GUARANTEED RIDE HOME (GRH)**

In an emergency or if you have to work unscheduled overtime, we'll get you home FAST and FREE! Commuters who carpool, vanpool, bike, walk, or take transit and are registered for GRH are eligible for a Guaranteed Ride Home up to four times a year.



#### TELEWORKING

Telework can help your company increase productivity, reduce costs, and boost employee morale and retention. We can help you design a telework program tailored to your needs. Free consulting services are available for employers through the Maryland Telework Partnership.

#### ALTERNATIVE WORK SCHEDULES

Commuter Services can also provide free consulting services on setting up flex time, compressed work week, or job sharing programs.



#### TAXI CABS

Taxicabs are excellent for short distance trips, cross-town business trips, emergencies, or when other public transportation doesn't fit your schedule. Lift-equipped cabs are available on request.

#### CAR SHARING

Take advantage of "car sharing" — programs that allow you 24/7 access to a vehicle. One program, known as Flex Car, is available at these Metrorail stations in Montgomery County: Bethesda, Grosvenor, Silver Spring, Shady Grove, and White Flint. Hourly to monthly fees cover gasoline, parking, insurance, and emergency service.

#### **ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION**

Accessible transportation services provide freedom of mobility to those with special needs. If you need assistance, please call 240-777-5890.

## TRANSIT SUBSIDIES AND TAX CREDITS

Commuter benefits can lower state and federal taxes for both employers and employees. Some employers are eligible for programs in which Montgomery County matches an employer's transit contribution for up to \$32.50 per month. To learn more, call Commuter Services at 301-770-POOL (7665) and set up an appointment in your office, at no charge, with our marketing specialist.



It takes as few as two in a car to use HOV Lanes on I-270. Whiz by the solo driver. Get there faster and less stressed. Express buses use the HOV lanes, too!

The 12-mile southbound HOV lane from I-370 to I-495 operates 6 to 9AM Monday

through Friday. The northbound HOV lane from I-495 (Capital Beltway) to MD 121 (Clarksburg Road) operates 3:30 to 6:30 PM Monday through Friday.







For More Information Call 301-770-POOL (7665) or Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute



### Montgomery County Commuter Services 301-770-POOL (7665) • 301-565-5890 (fax) www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute

FIND BETTER WAYS TO WORK WITH COMMUTER SERVICES! PLEASE COMPLETE, DETACH AND MAIL OR FAX THE ATTACHED POSTAGE PAID REPLY CARD OR

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